

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of both the amendments presented above and the following discussion, the Applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application are anticipated under the provisions of 35 USC § 102 (b) or obvious under the provisions of 35 USC § 103 (a). Thus, the Applicants believe that all of these claims are now in allowable form.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, the Examiner should telephone Ms. Janet M. Skafar, Esq. at message telephone number (408) 463-5670 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Drawings

In response to the objection to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign not mentioned in the description: "1004" in Figure 10, the specification has been amended to reference element 1004 of Fig. 10. In addition, a drawing correction has been made to delete reference numeral "1002" from Fig. 10.

Specification

The disclosure was objected to because of informalities on page 7, lines 1-2, page 10, line 17; page 19, lines 2-3 and page 21, lines 8-9, and page 11, line 3-4. In response, Applicants have amended the specification. In addition, the Applicants have corrected obvious typographical errors in the paragraph from page 7, line 5 to page 8, line 2.

The specification has also been amended to disclose reference numeral “1004.”

Status of Claims

Claims 1-20 and 25-27 are pending in this application. Claims 21-24 are withdrawn.

The Rejection of Claims 1-4, 10-11 and 12-20 Under 35 USC § 101

Claims 1-4, 10-11 and 12-20 were rejected under 35 USC § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The rejection states that the “method claims in 1-4, 10-11 and 12-20 are not embodied in a computer-readable medium. Methods not claimed as embodied in computer-readable media are descriptive per se and are not statutory because they are not capable of causing functional changed in the computer.” The rejection also states that the “method claimed in claims 1-4, 10-11 and 12-20 are a non-descriptive data structure. Descriptive material that cannot exhibit any functional interrelationship with the way in which computing processes are performed does not constitute a statutory process, machine, manufacture or composition.”

In response, Claim 1 has been amended as follows: “A computer-implemented method performed by a client system.” Claim 10 has been amended as follows: “A computer-implemented method for viewing a spreadsheet using a calculator preview mode on a computer system.” Claim 12 has been amended as follows: “A computer-implemented method,” and the limitations recite: “displaying, on a server system,” “allowing, on the server system,” “displaying, on a client system,” and “allowing, on the client system.” Therefore, the Applicants submit that the method claims are capable of causing functional changes in a computer, and are therefore are directed to statutory subject matter. Because Claims 2-4, 11 and 13-20 depend, directly or indirectly,

from Claims 1, 10 and 12, respectively, the Applicants submit that Claims 2-4, 11 and 13-20 are also directed to statutory subject matter.

The Rejection of Claims 13, 14 and 18-20 Under 35 USC § 112

Claims 13, 14 and 18-20 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention.

Claim 13 has been rewritten and now depends from Claim 10, therefore the rejection with respect to Claim 13 is moot.

The rejection asserts that regarding dependent Claim 14, the claim recites the limitation “the cells with values that other cells depend on” in the second line of the claim, and that there is insufficient basis for this limitation. In response, the Applicants have amended Claim 14 to recite: “wherein, on the server system, any cell that another cell depends on defaults to being an editable cell”. Therefore, the rejection of Claim 14 is now moot and should be withdrawn.

The rejection asserts that regarding Claims 18-20, Claim 18 recites the limitation “in each Spreadsheet/Calculator Data file and Data Array file” in the first line of the claim and that there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. In response, Claim 18 has been amended to change the limitation to “in a Spreadsheet/Calculator Data file and a Data Array file”. Therefore, there is sufficient antecedent basis for this limitation and the rejection of Claims 18-20 is now moot and should be withdrawn.

The Rejection of Claims 1, 5 and 10-26 Under 35 USC § 102 (b)

Claims 1, 5 and 10-26 were rejected under 35 USC § 102 (b) as being anticipated by the Chester publication (Mastering Excel 97, published in 1997 by SYBEX Inc.).

The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection.

In response to the rejection, the Applicants have amended Claim 1 to recite the limitation of: “displaying the requested calculator web page comprising one or more editable cells and one or more non-editable cells, wherein the editable cells are displayed with a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells.”

The rejection asserts that the Chester publication discloses cell borders, and the ability to lock and unlock cells. However, the Chester publication does not disclose, explicitly or implicitly, editable cells being displayed with a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells. In particular, the Chester publication does not disclose displaying a cell with a visual indication, for example, a border, based on the editability of that cell. Therefore, the Applicants submit that Claim 1 is not anticipated by the Chester publication.

The rejection of Claim 1 will also be discussed with respect to the rejection of Claim 26. With respect to Claim 26, the rejection asserts that the Chester publication, on page 331, paragraph 4, discloses building an input box for editable cells. The Chester publication recites: “The following exercise will show you how to format a text box using some formatting techniques”. However, the box of the Chester publication is a text box object not a cell. Furthermore, in the Chester publication, the text box object is used to display text, rather than being used for input. In addition, the editability of the text box object cannot be set. Furthermore, unlike the claimed invention, the text box

object is not displayed based on the editability of a cell. Therefore, the Applicants submit that Claim 1 is also not anticipated by page 331, paragraph 4, of the Chester publication.

For the foregoing reasons, the Applicants submit that the Chester publication does not teach or suggest, explicitly or implicitly, all the limitations of Claim 1. Therefore the present invention is not shown, disclosed or suggested, explicitly or even implicitly, by the Chester publication.

Independent Claim 1, as it currently stands, contains suitable limitations directed at the distinguishing aspects of the present invention. The claim, with these limitations shown in a bolded typeface, recites as follows:

“A computer-implemented method performed by a client system for viewing a calculator web page in a calculator mode, comprising:

sending a request to view the calculator web page;

displaying the requested calculator web page comprising at one or more editable cells and one or more non-editable cells, wherein the editable cells are displayed with a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells; and

allowing a user to change contents in the editable cells, but not allowing the user to change contents in the non-editable cells.” [emphasis added]

As such, the Applicants submit that independent Claim 1 is not anticipated by the teachings in the Chester publication. Hence independent Claim 1 is patentable. Claim 5 depends from Claim 1 and is patentable for the same reasons as Claim 1.

Claims 10, 12 and 25 have similar distinguishing limitations as Claim 1 and are therefore patentable for the same reasons as Claim 1. Claim 11 depends from

Claim 10 and is patentable for the same reasons as Claim 10. Claim 26 depends from Claim 25 and is patentable for the same reasons as Claim 25.

Moreover, Claim 12 contains additional distinguishing limitations as follows: “displaying, on a server system, a spreadsheet using a calculator preview mode, the spreadsheet having cells, at least one of the cells of the spreadsheet depending on a value in one or more other cells of the spreadsheet, wherein any cells depending on the value in the other cells default to being non-editable cells, any editable cells being displayed with a distinct visual indication from said non-editable cells.” The Chester publication on page 294 teaches: “By default, each cell is individually set with Locked checked,” and a person must individually unlock each cell that users will be allowed to change before the protecting the worksheet. Unlike the claimed invention, the Chester publication does not teach looking at the cell dependency to determine whether a cell is editable or not. In addition, the Chester publication does not teach a calculator preview mode, and does not teach a calculator preview mode in which any cells depending on the value in other cells default to being non-editable cells. Therefore, for the foregoing additional reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 12 is patentable.

Claim 16 contains additional distinguishing limitations as follows: “wherein adjusting editability includes allowing the designer/creator to toggle the editability of a cell in response to the designer/creator clicking on that cell.” The Chester publication allows the editability of a cell to be changed. In the Chester publication, checkbox, labeled “Locked” on a protection tab in the format cells dialog box is used to change the editability of a cell. In the claimed invention, a user only clicks on the cell to change the editability of that cell. Unlike the claimed invention, the Chester publication does not teach toggling the editability of a cell in response to the designer/creator clicking on that cell. Therefore, for the foregoing additional reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 16 is patentable.

Claims 14-15 and 17-20 depend, directly or indirectly, from Claim 12 and are patentable for the same reasons as Claim 12.

Claim 13 has been amended to depend from Claim 10 and recites the following limitation: "wherein at least one of the cells of the spreadsheet depends on a value in one or more other cells of the spreadsheet, and any cells depending on the value in other cells default to being non-editable cells, and any cell that another cell depends on defaults to being an editable cell." Unlike the claimed invention, the Chester publication does not teach looking at the cell dependency to determine whether a cell is editable or not. Therefore, for the foregoing additional reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 13 is patentable.

The Rejection of Claim 2 Under 35 USC § 103 (a)

Claim 2 depends from Claim 1 and has additional distinguishing limitations. Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Chester publication in view of the Courter publication (Mastering Microsoft Office 2000 Profession Edition, published in 1999 by SYBEX Inc.).

The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection. Neither the Chester publication, nor the Coulter publication, alone or in combination, explicitly or implicitly, teach or suggest the limitations of Claims 1 and 2.

The rejection asserts that regarding dependent Claim 2, that the Chester publication discloses a spreadsheet as a calculator web page. The rejection states that the Chester publication fails to disclose e-mailing the calculator to a recipient. The rejection asserts that the Courter publication teaches the e-mailing of Microsoft documents. The rejection then contends that it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art,

at the time the invention was made, to combine the web calculator spreadsheet of the Chester publication, with the e-mail capabilities as taught by the Courter publication in order to make “sharing and exchanging documents a snap.” (The Courter publication, page 282, third paragraph).

The Applicants respectfully disagree. As discussed above with respect to Claim 1, the Chester publication does not teach displaying a calculator web page wherein editable cells have a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells. The Coulter publication also does not teach displaying a calculator web page wherein editable cells have a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells. Therefore, combining the teachings of the Chester and Coulter publications would not result in the claimed invention of displaying a calculator web page wherein editable cells have a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells. Therefore, Claim 1 and Claim 2 are non-obvious and patentable.

The Rejection of Claims 3 and 4 Under 35 USC § 103 (a)

Claims 3 and 4 depend from Claim 1 and have additional distinguishing limitations. Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Chester publication in view of the Pollack et al patent (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,733, filed June 6, 2000, granted Dec. 10, 2002).

The Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the rejection. Neither the Chester publication, nor the Pollack et al patent, alone or in combination, explicitly or implicitly, teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 1 and Claim 3.

The rejection asserts that the Chester publication discloses a spreadsheet as a calculator web page. The rejection states that the Chester publication fails to disclose

copying HTML code based upon an ID of requested information (claim 3) where the HTML includes Java Script tags (claim 4). The rejection then asserts that the Pollack et al patent teaches copying HTML code based upon requested information. The rejection then contends that it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the web calculator spreadsheet of the Chester publication, with the HTML inserting method of the Pollack et al patent in order to reduce the complexity of inserting HTML objects into files.

As discussed above, the Chester publication does not teach displaying a calculator web page wherein editable cells have a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells. Moreover, the Pollack et al patent also does not teach displaying a calculator web page wherein editable cells have a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells. The Pollack et al patent is directed to a method for inserting interactive HTML objects into an electronic file. Therefore, combining the teachings of the Chester publication and Pollack et al patent would not result in the claimed invention of displaying a calculator web page wherein editable cells have a visually distinct indication from the non-editable cells. Therefore, Claims 1, 3 and 4 are non-obvious and patentable.

Claim 6 contains similar distinguishing limitations as Claims 3 and 4 and is patentable for the same reasons as Claims 3 and 4.

Claim 7 contains similar distinguishing limitations as Claims 1 and 3 combined; therefore Claim 7 is patentable for the same reasons as Claim 3. Claims 8 and 9 depend from Claim 7 and are patentable for the same reasons as Claim 7. Furthermore, Claims 8 and 9 contain similar distinguishing limitations as Claims 4 and 3, and are patentable for the same reasons as Claims 4 and 3, respectively.

Docket No.: SVL920040505US2

Appl. No.: 09/714,683

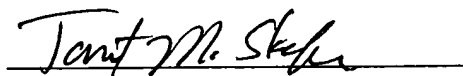
Amdt. dated May 6, 2005

Conclusion

Consequently, the Applicants believe that all these claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

May 6, 2005



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Attachment

Docket No.: SVL920040505US2

Appl. No.: 09/714,683

Amdt. dated May 6, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 10. This sheet, which includes Fig. 10, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 10. In Fig. 10, reference numeral 1002 and its associated lead line have been deleted.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet